

FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20579

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLAIM OF

OLGA SCHUSSLER

Under the International Claims Settlement  
Act of 1949, as amended

Claim No. CU -5088

Decision No. CU 1303

PROPOSED DECISION

This claim against the Government of Cuba, under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, was presented by OLGA SCHUSSLER, and is based on her interest in twelve bonds issued by the Consolidated Railroads of Cuba. Claimant has been a national of the United States since her naturalization on August 18, 1938.

Under Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949 [78 Stat. 1110 (1964), 22 U.S.C. §§1643-1643k (1964), as amended, 79 Stat. 988 (1965)], the Commission is given jurisdiction over claims of nationals of the United States against the Government of Cuba. Section 503(a) of the Act provides that the Commission shall receive and determine in accordance with applicable substantive law, including international law, the amount and validity of claims by nationals of the United States against the Government of Cuba arising since January 1, 1959 for

losses resulting from the nationalization expropriation, intervention or other taking of, or special measures directed against, property including any rights or interests therein owned wholly or partially, directly or indirectly at the time by nationals of the United States.

Section 502(3) of the Act provides:

The term 'property' means any property, right, or interest including any leasehold interest, and debts owed by the Government of Cuba or by enterprises which have been nationalized, expropriated, intervened, or taken by the Government

of Cuba and debts which are a charge on property which has been nationalized, expropriated, intervened, or taken by the Government of Cuba.

On the basis of evidence of record, the Commission finds that claimant is, and since prior to October 13, 1960, has been the owner of five bonds in the original face amounts of 1,000 pesos and seven bonds in the original face value of 5,000 pesos issued by the Consolidated Railroads of Cuba and known as a 3% Cumulative Income Debenture, due October 1, 2001, issued under an Indenture of February 1, 1953, with the United States Trust Company of New York as Trustee. The bonds in question are:

<u>1,000 Peso</u>		<u>5,000 Peso</u>	
Nos.	RM 19711	Nos.	RV 13883
	RM 19906		RV 13884
	RM 19907		RV 14121
	RM 19908		RV 14186
	RM 19909		RV 14187
			RV 14206
			RV 14207

Consolidated Railroads of Cuba (Ferrocarriles Consolidados de Cuba), was a Cuban corporation. The Consolidated Railroads of Cuba thus would not qualify as a national of the United States under Section 502(1)(B) of the Act which defines the term "national of the United States" as including "(B) a corporation or other legal entity which is organized under the laws of the United States, or of any State, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, if natural persons who are citizens of the United States own, directly or indirectly, 50 per centum or more of the outstanding capital stock or other beneficial interest of such corporation or entity."

The record shows that Consolidated Railroads of Cuba was nationalized by Cuban Law 890, published in the Cuban Official Gazette on October 13, 1960. Claimant's bonds, therefore, represented a debt of a nationalized enterprise as defined in Section 502(3) of the Act (supra).

The Commission concludes that as a result of nationalization of the properties of the Consolidated Railroads of Cuba, claimant suffered a loss in connection with her bonds within the meaning of Title V of the Act. (See the Claim of Edward R. Smith, FCSC Claim No. CU-5001.)

Information available to the Commission establishes that the last payment of interest on the subject debenture was made on April 1, 1959; however, the nationalized enterprise owed, as of that date, a total of 14.3% of the face amount of the debenture issued for prior accumulation of unpaid interest. Claimant, therefore, sustained the loss of the face amount of her bonds, the 14.3% prior accumulation of interest, and interest at 3% per annum from April 1, 1959 to October 13, 1960, the date upon which the enterprise was nationalized by the Government of Cuba.

As to the dollar value of the bond and interest, expressed in pesos, the Commission finds that the peso was valued at par with the dollar on the date of loss.

The Commission further finds that the amount of the unpaid indebtedness on claimant's bonds on October 13, 1960, the date of loss, was \$47,563.27, including the total principal amount of \$40,000.00 and the interest due, to and including October 13, 1960, in the amounts of \$189.08 on each of the five 1,000 peso bonds and \$945.41 on each of the seven 5,000 peso bonds.

The Commission has decided that in certification of losses on claims determined pursuant to Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, interest should be included at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of loss to the date of settlement (See the Claim of Lisle Corporation, FCSC Claim No. CU-0644).

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that the amount of loss sustained by claimant shall be increased by interest thereon at the rate of 6% per annum from October 13, 1960, the date of loss to the date on which provisions are made for settlement thereof.

CERTIFICATION OF LOSS

The Commission certifies that OLGA SCHUSSLER suffered a loss, as a result of actions of the Government of Cuba, within the scope of Title V of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, in the amount of Forty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents (\$47,563.27) with interest thereon at 6% per annum from October 13, 1960 to the date of settlement.

Dated at Washington, D. C.,  
and entered as the Proposed  
Decision of the Commission

FEB 21 1968

*Edward S. Re*  
Edward S. Re, Chairman  
*Theodore Jaffe*  
Theodore Jaffe, Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the decision of the Commission which was entered as the final decision on MAY 27 1968

*Francis MacLeod*  
Clerk of the Commission

NOTICE TO TREASURY DEPARTMENT: The above-listed bonds may have been returned to claimant and no payment should be made until they are resubmitted.

The statute does not provide for the payment of claims against the Government of Cuba. Provision is only made for the determination by the Commission of the validity and amounts of such claims. Section 501 of the statute specifically precludes any authorization for appropriations for payment of these claims. The Commission is required to certify its findings to the Secretary of State for possible use in future negotiations with the Government of Cuba.

NOTICE: Pursuant to the Regulations of the Commission, if no objections are filed within 15 days after service or receipt of notice of this Proposed Decision, the decision will be entered as the Final Decision of the Commission upon the expiration of 30 days after such service or receipt of notice, unless the Commission otherwise orders. (FCSC Reg., 45 C.F.R. 531.5(e) and (g), as amended, 32 Fed. Reg. 412-13 (1967).)

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